

# The most wonderfull and true storie, of a certaine Witch named Alse Gooderige of Staben hill, who was arraigned and conuictid at Darbie at the Assises there.

As also a true report of the strange torments of Thomas Darling, a boy of thirteene yeres of age, that was possessed by the Deuill, with his horrible fittes and terrible Apparitions by him vttered at Burton vpon Trent in the Countie of Stafford, and of his maruelous deliuernace.



Printed at London for I. O. 1597.

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## To the Reader.

**I**me hath proved that by experience (Christian Reader) which S. John by the spirit of Prophecie foretrewed; *The Diuel* (saith he) *hath great wrath, knowing that he hath but a short time*: for this Prophecie is fulfilled, not only in the outrageous fury that Sathan vseth in raising persecution against Gods Saints, by his mischievous instruments, & corrupting mens minds by his wicked suggestions, but also in tyrannizing, according to his limited power over them by torments. This first kind of cruelty the former Ages haue felt whē the third part of the Sunne, and the Moone, and the Stars were smitten by the Roman Dragon, and stinged by the Turkish scorpions, and other locusts of the like stamp: the other maner of villany hath shewed her fruites too plentifully in this our age in the cooling of Charitie, & quenching of the Spirit, that our Sauiours Prophecie (which cannot be farre off) may be fulfilled, *When the Sonne of man commeth, shal he find faith on the earth?* And this last kind of tiranny is too aparant amongst other instances, in the pittifull vexing of this poore distressed child: And as the Holie-ghost hath left such conflicts for the spiritual warfare of his children, so hath he nor left them without weapō: to withstand the fury of their enemies: for in temporal persecutions & afflictions they haue Patience for their buckler, that they may learne to say of them with *Job*, *Blessed be the name of the Lord*: and in all maner of temptations of Sathan, they haue the whole armor of God, yea and those weapons that are able to ouerthrow the Diuels strongest holdes, as shal well appeare euē in this small Treatise. Concerning the straungenesse thereof, it is left to thy consideration (gentle Reader) and for the trueth of it, if it should

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be called in question, as not vnlike, (for the abundaunce of false and fruolous deuises, broched in these dayes, a thing much to be lamented, do oft times abridge trueth of her credit) besides that for the particulars, a hundred more witnesses might be produced, than are here inserted, and diuers of them of good woorth and credite, the matter it selfe is well knowne to the right Honourable sir *Edmund Anderson* Knight, Lord chiese Iustice of the common plees, as being voluntarilie confessed to him by the Witch, who was vpon the same arraigned and convicted before his H. at Darby, and therfore is not lightly to be excepted against. Besides also, that it was compiled by a priuate Christian & man of trade, who being with the boy almost in all his fits, did both take notes at the present of all that was doone and spoken, and conferred also afterward with the witnesses of best iudgement and credit, that he might be sure of that which hee had set downe. In a worde, I thinke there can scarcely be any instance shewed (the holy Scriptures excepted) whereby both the peccish opinion, that there are no witches, and the Popish assertion that only their priests can dispossesse, may be better controlled than by this. The first kind of people, I rather thinke are to be pittied, than confuted, daily experiance crying out against their follie. The other may heereby see their too peremptorie conclusions ouerthrowne, since he whose aduise & help was vsed in this matter, is very well knowne to bee a faithfull preacher of the Gospel, and so consequently an enemy to Poperie; wishing thee therefore so to regarde it as for the trueth and weight thereof it shal deserue, and to reape such fruit by it, as being well regarded it may yeelde, I bid thee farewell in Christ.

*J. D. a well*



## A report of the torments and de- liveraunce of *Thom. Darling*, (a Boy of thir- teene yeares of age) that was possessed by Sa- than, at *Burton upon Trent*.

1595  
pon Saturday (being the xvii. of Februarie)

Robert Toone  
(dwelling in Burton upon Trent  
in the Countie of Stafford, Unc-  
le to this *Thom. Darling*) go-  
ing to Winsell Wood (which is  
distant from Burton about half a  
myle) to hunt the hare, took the

Boy with him; and being earnest in following his game,  
told him: who (after he had a while wandred up & downe,  
and could not finde his Uncle) returnd home to his uncles  
house, where he sojourned. Being come home, he waxed  
beauie, and afterward grew to be verie sicke, vomiting &  
casting up what he had eaten at dinner: and so was got to  
bed. The next morning hee had soye fits, with extreame  
vomitinges, that all which sawe him, iudged it to bee some  
strange ague. In the time of this extremitie in these hys  
fits, he would manie times pount with his hand, saying;  
Looke where greene Angels stand in the window, and not  
long after would often complaine, that a green Cat trou-  
bled him: which thing was iudged by his friends to pro-  
ceede of lightnes in his head; manie other things fell out  
also in these times worthie the noting, whereof (in respect  
of the unexpected event) there was no note kept. His sick-  
nes

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nes wering more vehement, his Aunt went to a Phisition with his bynde: who said he saw no signes of anie natural disease in the Childe, unles it were the wormes. His sicknes still increasing (notwithstanding anie thing prescribed or ministred) she went againe with his bynde to the Phisition; who iudged as before, saying further, he doubted that the Childe was bewitched: whiche shée (holding incredibile) imparted it to no bodie; rather imagining it to bee (though some strange, yet) a naturall disease: as divers also iudged it to bee the Falling sicknes, by reason that it was no continuall distemperature, but came by fits, with sodaine staring, striuing and strugling verie fiercely, and falling downe with soze boimits; also it tooke awape the use of his legs, so that he was faine to bee carried vp and downe, saue in his fits, for then hee was nimble enough. How hee spent the time betweene his fits, it is woorthe the obseruing; his exercises were such as might well haue seemed one of riper yeares; wherein he shewed the frutes of his education, which was religious and godly. With those that were good Chylians he tooke great pleasure to conserue; to whom he would signifie his daily expectation of death, and his resolute readinesse to leaue the World, and to be with Christ: and all his loue to the world, he said extended thys sacre, that (if God had so been pleased) he might haue lived to be a preacher to thunder out the threatenings of Gods word, against sinne and all abhominacions, wherewith these dayes doo abound. In these fits and such like speeches, he continued till Mid-lent Sunday, being the xxi. of March. That day (be it soe that his wonted fit tooke him) he began in other and more strange manner to bee vexed: for hee swayed downe as one in a swoond. Footidwith they tooke him vp, and layd him vpon a bed: where (hauing lapne some smal space) he arose vp sodainly, striuing and strugling in such sorte, that it was enough for two or three to hold hym. Then fell hee sodainly vpon

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his backe, and (lying in such manner) rayled vp his legges one after the other so stilly, that the standers by could not know them in the hamme: and thus continuing a whyle with greeuous roaing, at last he rayled himselfe vp on his feete and his head, his belly standing vp much above his head or feete, continuing so a little space he fell downe vp on his backe groaning verie pitifully. Then rising vp, he ran round on his hands and his feete, keeping a certayne compasse: after that straung and stragling with groaning, he fel a vomiting, and then coming to himselfe, saide, the Loydes name bee praised. This was the first fit that hee had; and after this maner was hee ordinarily handled during the time of his possession (saue that hee did seldomme turne round in that manner that is aforesaid:) which being thus ended, hee fell upon his knees sodainely to pray, and that so pitifully that the standers by wondered thererat, as much as they did at his strange vistation, beeinge no lesse comforted by the one, than they were before greeued at the other.

The next day hee hadde many fittes, in the which hee woulde often point at a greene Carte that troubled him, and still increaseth his friends that were present to pray for him. Betweene his fittes he requested them to reade the scriptures, which when they could not doe for weeping to behold his miserie, they sent (at the bores request) for one Iesle Bee that doth dwel in Burton upon Trent, who tooke the agres of the whole maner, and him the Boy after some spredes intreated to read wher he would: who read the xi. Chapter according to Iua, Iohn, till hee came to the fourth verse, at which time the Boye was myrrhen into a sleeke the fifties: wher his fittes commonall about halfe quarter of an houre. Iesse continued reading the xiij. and xiiij. of Iohns Gospel, and the first & second of the Reuelation. During whiche time, his fittes continued one in the mache of another.

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Whiche ending with abomit, hee vsed to saye *The Lordes*  
name bee praised : and manie times, *Lord Iesu receiue my*  
*soule.* Wherupon leslie either ceased to speake of anie comfor-  
table matter, or to read the scriptures, the Boy was qui-  
et from his fits: but when he was so religiously occupied,  
they came thicke vpon him; which leslie Bee considering  
and obseruing, told the Boyes Aunt he suspected that the  
Boy was bewitched. Upon which occasion, (though he  
doubted of the matter) she tolde him as before, both her go-  
ing to the Physition and the Physitions iudgement conctr-  
uning the Boyes sicknesse, whiche he ouer-hearing, yet said  
nothing. The next morning, he said vnto the maide that  
made him readie, I heard my Aunt tell leslie Bee, that I  
was bewitched: the same Saturday that my sicknes tooke  
me, I lost my Uncle in the Wood, and in the Coppice I  
met a little old woman; she had a gray gown with a black  
fringe about the cape, a broad brimed hat, and three warts  
on her face: I haue seene her begging at our doore, as  
for her name I knowit not, but by sight I can know her  
againe. As I passed by her in the Coppice, I chanced (a-  
gainst my will) to let a scape, which she taking in anger  
sayd, Gyp with a mischiefe, and farr with a bell e. I wil  
goe to heauen, and thou shalt goe to hell; and forthwith  
she stoopt to the ground. I stood still and looked at her,  
viewing euerie part of her, meruailing what shee haued  
so: so I came home, and she went to Newell. Heteupon  
on a moche vehement suspition arising, some iudged it to be  
the wretched of Scapen-hill: others, because he was olde  
and went little abroad, rather thought he to be Alice Goo-  
dridge her daughter, who was hauid great suspition of  
manie to bee a docter in those diuellish practises, and after-  
ward it woynd, That she haues bee coniuped daily from  
the 23. of March vnto the eight of Aprill, to the great trou-  
ble of his Aunt in looking for him, and attending on such  
as came to see him, wherof manie were of verie good ac-  
count.

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count. When in his fittes hee was deprivued of the use of speach, hee would make signes of prayng, with folded hands, sometime lifting them vp, and sometime striking them vpon his breast: oft times also in these fits, he wold sodainly and amazedly open his eyes, staring and striking most pitifullly, clapping both his hands vpon his face, not being able to indure the sight of such fearefull obiects as he beheld. In this manner was he tormentted in the day, and had reasonable good rest in the night, except through some fearefull dreames; whereunto he was much subiect. Being asked if hee could remember what hee did when hee made such signes? He answered, that sometimes he prayed, and sometimes the Cat tolled him vp & downe in a string. And thus so long a good space he could remember, & readly make relation of his troubles.

The Thursdaie before Easter (beeing the 8. of Aprill) there came to see the Boye Mistres Walkeden of Clifton his Grandmother, and Mistres Saundres his Aunt; to whom when it was tolde what the Boye sayd concerning the meeting of a woman in the wood, Mistres Walkeden (vpon the Witches cursing, the Boyes louaine sicknes, his strange handling, & the Phisitians iudgement) thought it more than probable that the Boy was bewitched; and by the markes that he had taken, perceived that it was Alice Goodridge which had thus bewitched him; yet making conscience to accuse her till it appeared vpon sure prooфе, sent for her into the Towne to talke with her priuately. When (with much adoo) she was come, they brought her into the chamber where the Boye was; at which time, the Boye fell sodainly into a maruellous sore fit: which being ended, Mistres Walkeden asked her if she knew that boy? She answered she knew him not. Manie other questions were asked; but in vaine, for she would not confesse anye thing. Some of the Saundres by, perswaded the Boye to scratch her; which he did vpon the face, and the back of the  
 B hands,

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hands, so that y<sup>e</sup> blood came out apace: She strok<sup>e</sup> the back  
of her hand vpon the childe, saying; take blood enough childe,  
God helpe thee. To whom the Boy answered; praye for  
thy selfe, thy prayer can do me no good. Here by the way  
touching this vse of scratching the witch: thogh it be com-  
monly receiued as an approued meanes to discry y<sup>e</sup> witch,  
and procure ease to the bewitched; yet seeing that neither  
by ane naturall cause, or supernaturall warrant of Gods  
word it hath ane such vertue giuen unto it; it is to be re-  
ceaved amongst the witchcrafts, whereof there bee great  
vse vsl in our Land, to the great dishonor of God. But  
to our matter. When Robert Toone the Boyes Uncle  
and his Schoolmaster saw that mistres Walkeden could  
nothing preuaide with this bad woman, they took her aside;  
to whom (after many questions) she granted, that she was  
in the Wood that Saturday which the Boy spake of, and  
that she saw no boy but Sherrats boye. Further they de-  
manded of her when she received the Communion: She  
sayd, a tyme in the monthe agoe. And asking what she received: She  
answered, her damnation. They asked her whether  
she knew what she said: She answered againe, what shuld  
I receive but my damnation: They caused her to say the  
Lords Prayer and the Creed, which she huddled vp wþtch  
much adoo: but when she came to these words in y<sup>e</sup> Lords  
Prayer, And lead vs not into temptation; and in the Creed  
either to Iesus Christ, The Holy Ghost, or The Catholike  
Church, she would not say ane of those words. After these  
examinations, she departed to her owne house. The next  
day he had manie sores; in the whiche because he would  
clap his hands on his face, and shrike pitifully, they asked  
him the reason therof at the end of his fit: He answered  
that the greene Cat which he saw had eyes like flames of  
fire; and that caused him thus fearfully to hide his eyes: &  
that his paine (which he indured) was very greenous, like  
the pricking with daggers or stinging of Bees, which can-

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sed his crying. As this his vexatiō moued many that came to see him to shew teares, so did it not a little greeue hys Uncle Toone; who seeing these fits to increase, thought it good that the Witch were brought before a Justice: and so went with Iesse Bee (the 10. of Aprill) before M. Thos: Grayley Esquire and Justice of Peace, crauing his Precept to that purpose: which he granted, & directed it to the Constable of Stapen-hill, to bring both this Alice Gooderidge (which was almost 60. yeres of age) and old Elizabeth Wright also, mother to this Alice; who had bin 4 or 5. times before him on suspition of many such-crimes. The Precept thus grauanted sooth, they were brought before M. Grayley, to whom shee would confess nothing, save that she met a Boy (which she thought to be Sherats boy, who had broken her a basket full of egges) in Abels Cloase, and (sayd shee) if my wordes did him anie hurt, I am sorry: but that word Bell shee did not remember that she vised. The next morning when the Boy shoulde rise, his shire was knyt on diuers knots betwixt his legs: and bee- ing asked how that came? He said he could not tell. All that day he continued in lenseles fits, with grievous groaning and fearefull skreaming, crying out; looke where the Witch standeth with three warts upon her face.

The next morning (being Saturday) about six of the Clocke (at which time, his Keepers thinking not the ho-  
wer of his fits to be come, tooke no great care of looking to him) he was upon the sodaine his owne under the bedde, crying fearefull; Flames of fire, flames of fire. Sooth-  
with he got upon the bed, being fearefull and amazed in his countenance. About fourre of the clooke (at which tyme his fittes were wont to leaue him) they did now take him in wonderfull fierce manner till midnight, with greater extremitie than at anie tyme before, hauing sildome more intermission than to vomit and saye (as it was his usuall manner in most extremities) The Lord bee prayed. In  
these

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+ His mother  
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ye 13 of d

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these fits he shriked pitifully and fearfully, desiring them to take away the blacke Cat. Both now, and most times he made signes of prayer with folded hands, striking upon his breast.

The 14. of April Sir Humphrey Ferrers and Master Graysley met at Robert Toones, who caused thereto to bee brought Elizabeth Wright and Alice Goodridge, together with her husband and daughter. Master Graysley (after some questions concerning his fits) commanded that the Bible should be deliuered into the boyes handes; who began to read the first Chap. of S. Johns Gospell, till he cygne to the 4. verste: at which place (when he read) hee was ouerthowone into a most cruell fit. Presently after which, the old woman Eliza Wright came into Robert Toones house, which so soone as M. Graysley understood, he caused her to be brought into the parlor, where the Child was: but she was verie unwilling to come in, crying, Alas that euer I was borne, what shall I doo? M. Graysley spake loud to her, asking if she could do the boy any good: She answered that her daughter had that at home, that she should doo good with. He caused her (with much adoo) to looke upon the boy: which as soone as euer shee did, hee fell into a strange and cruell fit: Lying upon hys backe, his eyes standing staring open in fearefull manner, his teeth set in his head, his armes clapp'd close to his sides, and all the parts of his bodie quaking verie fearefullly. M. Graysley had her kneele downe and pray for him; which shee did, but so as no bodie could understand what shee sayd. Whiles shee prayed, the fit continued, and therfore they thrust her out of doores; which beeing done, the boyes fit ended presently. S. Humphrey and M. Graysley agreed, that certaine women should search the mother & the daughter seuerally, to see if they could finde any such marks on them, as are vsually found on witches. The old woman they stript, & found behind her right sholder a thing much

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much like the boder of an ewe that giueth sucke with two teates, like unto two great wartes, the one behinde vnder her armehole, the other a handfull off towardes the top of her shoulder : which when they had found, they put on her cloths againe, leauing the place bare, that it might be seen both of sir Humfrey, maister Grasley, and diuers others of good worth, as indeede it was. They bade her say the Lords prayer, which she bould by after her manner leauing out these wordes full vnsaide, *And leade vs not into temptation*: being then demanded how long she had those teates, she aunswere she was borne so. Then did they search Alice Gooderige, and found vpon her belly, a hole of the bignesse of two pence, fresh and bloudy, as though some great wart had beene cut off the place. The Justices examined her concerning the bewitching of the boy, but she would confesse nothing. Then sir Humfrey tooke her to the boy, and asked him whether this were shee that thus bewitched him: he answered that it was surely shee: then did sir Humfrey bid him scratch her, which when the boy offered to do, his hand was presently benummed and plucke to his side, and he tormented in every part: soure seuerall times he assaied to do this, but stil with like succes; he was bidden to lay his hand on the standers by, which he did without difficultie. Then proceeded they in examining her concerning her hurt: she said that she went to fetch ale-  
tle meale on Easter even soorth of the chamber, and com-  
ming downe a ladder, her foote slipped, and she hauing a  
knife in her hand, thrust her selfe into the bellie: they asked  
the iudgement of a Surgeon, whose aunswere was, that it  
was like to haue beene so a long time, for it was not fesse-  
red, and seemed to be sucken. Sir Humfrey charged her  
with Witchcraft about one Michaels Cow: which Cow  
when shee brake all thinges that they tied her in, ranne  
to this Alice Gooderige her house, scraping at the walls  
and windowes to haue come in: her olde mother Eliza-  
beth

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beth Wright, tooke vpon her to helpe, vpon condition that she myght haue a peny to bestow vpon her god, and so she came to the mans house kneeled downe before the Cow, crostled her with a sticke in the forehead, and prayed to her god, since whiche time the Cow continued wel. With this she was vrged by the Justices, and with the hurt vpon her bellie, hewe it coulde be so, and her clo:hes not cutte, whereto she made shifting answers, to no purpose. Then put they her aside, and examined Oliver Gooderidge her husband, and her daughter also, who were found to disagree in their tales concerning that matter: whereupon Sir Hunsfrey committed her to Darbie Gaole, but dismissed her mother.

The next day the boy had a very greenous fit, in which lying still a while, hee beganne to thow up both his feete sodainely, beating them against the ground with great vehemencie, and at length being in a traunce, he spake say-  
ing, Dost thou say thou art my god, and that I am thy sonne? Auoyde Sathan, there is no God saue the Lord of hosts. Pawzing a while, at last he said againe, And woul-  
dest thou haue me worship a moulten calfe? I will wor-  
ship nothing but the Lord God, and him only wil I serue.  
Againe being silent awhile, he saide; Wilst thou gue mee  
three townes if I will worship thee? Auoyde Sathan, it  
is written, I shall worship the Lord God onely. And dost  
thou say, that if I wil not worship thee, thou wille torment  
me three times more; if thou torment me three hundred  
times, yet canst thou not touch my soule. After this hee  
was tormenting three seuerall times over every part of his  
body, whiche being ended, he desired to go to the windowe,  
to refresh himselfe, being hote and faint: there he prayed  
God for his mercies, telling them that stoode by. If Sa-  
than came againe, hee would aske him many questions,  
and charge him with many things, for he remembred what  
he had spoken as wel as any that was present: having thus  
rested

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tressed about a quarter of an houre, bee was thowne into  
 two severall fites, matchable with the former in crueltie,  
 and at the last spake saying, I charge thee by the living  
 God to tell me who sent thee. Doost thou tell me thy mi-  
 stris sent thee? What is thy mistris name? Doost thou  
 say thou wylt not tell mee before to morrow? And why I  
 pray thee wylt thou not? Doost thou say thou wylt torment  
 me twice more? Do thy woost, my hope is in the living  
 God, and he wyl deliver me out of thy hands: having spo-  
 ken these words he was cast into two severall fites like to  
 the former; which being ended, he desired the standers by  
 to ioyne with him in humble and heartie prayer, and so fell  
 upon his knees, praising God, for that he had somewhat  
 revealed his enemie Sathan vnto him, and beseeching him  
 to continue his goodnesse in manifesting him more plain-  
 ly. The standers by aske him what he heard & saw in these  
 shrye conflicts (for they neither saw nor heard any thing,  
 but him replying & answering) he told them that the great  
 Cat tossed hem vp and downe in a string, and that a thing  
 spake to him with a voice small and shrill. The next daie  
 about nine of the clocke he was cast into a greeuous fite,  
 and being cast vpon his backe, was bereft of al vse of anie  
 part of his bodie, and at the length spake saying: Doost  
 thou say I am thy sonne? I am none of thine, I am the  
 poore seruant of the Lord of hostes: and pausing a while,  
 he said, Doest thou offer me a kingdome, if I will worship  
 thee? I will none of thy kingdome, for it is but earthly.  
 The Lord hath reserved for me a kingdome in heauen, I  
 charge thee thou diuell, In the name of the Father, of the  
 Sonne, and of the holy ghost to tel me what is thy name.  
 Doost thou tell me that thy name is Wrythe? I charge  
 thee tell me, what is thy mistresse name? Doost thou say  
 none? thou hast alwayes bene a liar, and the facher of lies,  
 and doost thou say, that vnto thee I will worship thee thou  
 wyl torment mee three times more than thou diddest  
 before

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before, if thou torment me 3000. times more, my faith is so strong, that I will worship none but the living God. These wordes being finished, he was cast into threeseuerall fittes, with all the former tormentes, drawing togerher his ioynts and sinewes, and writhing him, with tossing and turning him very round most pittifullly; these fits and speeches continued about halfe an houre. After this, hee was cast into another fit, his eies closed vp, his legges lifted vp as stiffe as stakes, and al his senses taken from him; which fit ceasing, he was well, till twelve of the clocke at noone, and then was cast into another fit, lying flat vpon his backe, and lifting his feete vp: at last he saide, Doost thou say thou wilt give me a pallace, and make me a king if I will worship thee? Auoyde Sathan, I will worship the Lord onely. Doost thou say thou wilt mitigate my tormentes, if I will worship thee? Auoyde Sathan, I will worship none, saue onely the Lord God my Saviour, my sanctifier and redeemer. Doost thou say, that if I will not worship thee, thou wilt torment me thrice? Do thy worke Sathan, my faith standeth sure with my God, at whose hands I looke for succour. Having uttered these and some other such wordes, hee was cast into threeseuerall cruell fittes; after the which he had rest till two of the clocke, at which time there came divers worshipfull personages, of purpose to behold the maner of the childe so strange vexing; they caused him to reade vpon the bible, which caused Sathan to rage, so that he was cast into a fit terribly tormenting and vexing, as that it did much humble the beholders, and mooue them to commiseration and pietie, for the childe so distressed estate. While these things hapned, it was reported, that the old witch Elizabeth Wright was in the towne, a thing somewhat rare; for it is thought, that (except at the time of her former examination) shee was not so farre in halfe a yere before: presently they sent for her.

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In the meane season came in maister Bagot the yonger  
 of Blithfield, wishing to be an eie witnes of these strange  
 reports, requesting the boy to take the Bible and reade, he  
 being unwilling to reade himselfe, wished less: Bee to do  
 so much, whiche he did, and when he came to the 4. verle of  
 the 1. chapter of S. Iohns gospel in these wordes, *In it was  
 life, and the life was the light of the world*, the boy was  
 ouerthronwe into a fit. About the end of which it was said  
 that the witch was come, whome before they had sent for,  
 so that she was presently brought in, and stript by certaine  
 women, that they might see her suspected place: whilst  
 they stripped her, she cursed the daie of her birth, making  
 great outcries, and vling bitter speeches against all that  
 offered to accuse her. And being asked who brought her to  
 Burton: She said, the diuell: being asked divers questions  
 she liked not, she would answere she did not heare. Much  
 adoo they had to get her to come neare the boy, or to looke  
 on him: and it had bin good for him if shee had never come  
 at him, for so soone as she kneeled downe by him, and cast  
 her eyes vpon him, he was sovainely taken with such a ve-  
 hement fit, as before he had vpon the like occasion: This  
 was more greeuous than manie other; he lay vpon his  
 backe, altogether deprivid of the vse both of his members  
 and sensles; except his eyes, for they stode wide open ver-  
 ty fearefull to the beholders: and all the partes of his bo-  
 die did quake and shake like Aspen leavies. Whiles shee  
 was vpon her knees at her diuellish prayers, the child was  
 greeuously tormented, therefore they thrust her out of the  
 doores. Whiche being done, he recovered himselfe, and his  
 fit ended he said; *The Lord be praised*: Mistris Derbick  
 also of New-hall came in to beholde with others these  
 strange sightes, at whose request, when lesse Bee read the  
 first chapter of the gospel after S. Iohn, and came to the 4.  
 verle, the boy was cast into a fit like to those which before  
 he had vpon the like occasion.

## A Boy possessed

In these his fittes, as also in those that he had after, he could neither conceale what he said, or what Sathan saide to him. The next morning he had two fittes betwixt 8. and 12. of the clocke, at which time Master Graily came againe to see the child, and whilste he was there, there came in two men of Stapen hil. neere neighbours to Alice Gooderidge, who said they came from Darbie, and were intreated by her to tel Robert Toone, that if he would be good to her, she would reueale the whole trueth of the matter; and further, they offred him their company thither on monday, which was agreed vpon by the advise of M. Graily. But newes came, that there was one which being skilful in discerning of witches had bin with Alice Gooderidge at Darbie, and affirmed flatly that she was a witch, offering to make open triall of it, and to cure the boy. This offer Rob. Toone accepting of very willingly, a time was appinted for this mans comming thither. But to retorne to the boy: about xi. of the clocke, he had a soze fit, with the increase of tormentes groaning very greeuously, and shreiking very pitifully, and being cast vpon his backe with his legs thowne out (as commonly he was) at the last he uttered these words; Dost thou say that I am thy Champion? I wil be none of thy champion, I am the servant of the Lord of hosts. What offertest thou me a bag of mony, if I wil worship thee? Auoyde Sathan, I wil none of thy mony, the Lord in heauen hath mony enough in store for me. And dost thou say thou wilt torment me twice more greeuously than before? Do thy iworst Sathan, my trust is in the Lord God. Dost thou say thy mistris will haue it so? I charge thee in the name of the father, &c. to tel me what thy mistris name is. Dost thou say thou wilt not reueale thy mistris: with that Sathan tormenteth him againe, the which going away with a vomit, his mother began to es-  
sou him, exhorting him to put his trust in God: to whome he said, My whole trust is in him; for the Lord hath my enemy

## by the diuell.

nemy in a chaine, and keepeth him in a compasse, which he shall not passe. And hauing remained well about halfe an houre, he was againe pitifullly tormented, and at the last spake these wordes : Doost thou say thou wilt giue mee whatsoeuer I will aske thee if I will be thy Champion? I desir thee, and all that thou offerest me, I will be none of thy champion. I charge thee in the name of the living God to tell mee what thy Mistresse name is. Saies thou that thy Mistres hath giuen thee a drop of her bloud to thy dinner, and that therefore thou wilt tel no tales of her? And doost thou say my fauour is but weake? Sathan, it is too strong for thee to ouerthowe. Doost thou saie thou wilt torment me worse than euer thou hast done? Da thou thy worst, my trust is in the Lord my God. Forthwith he was pitifullly tormented: after which being asked what he saw he answered, the greene Cat (as he vuallye told them) a. king angrily, did not you see her? Oh quoth he this haſt beene a greeuous torment to me. This ended, he desired being hot and faint with the extremitie of his torment, to be carried to the window to take the aire: where whilſt he ſate, there came in one, whose name Ile passe ouer in ſilence; and being a ſtranger, beganne to examine the boy concerning poeticall and other Schoole points; the boy was wearie of his compagnie and conference, (as indeed he had great reaſon, being vnfit for ſuch an occaſion) and desired to be carried into another chamber, the which was immidiately done. But this ſuppoſed friend followed him, and renewed his former ſpeeches, vettering alſo an oþ that grieved the boy exceedingly. The moþer understanding it, came and asked what the ſtranger ſaid to him that ſo troubled him: (for he wept pitifullly) The partie himſelfe anſwered before the boy, I ſpake no hurt to him. No (quod the child) you bade me I ſhould not diſemble, ſaying that there was no witches: alſo you asked of me if I thought there were a god: God blesſe me fro ſuch coſorters: I pray

## A Boy possessed

you al pray for me that the Lord would deliver mee from  
 this temptation: at which wordes speaking hee was over-  
 thowne into a cruell fit; which beeing ended, that man  
 which thought there was no witches departed. But ma-  
 ster Eccarshall the Pastor of Buiton being present staid  
 still comforting the boy and his sorrowfull mother, per-  
 swading him that if Sathan speake to him againe, he should  
 not answer him, because he was a liar, and indeuoured by  
 his wordes to make the boy beleeue him; these things en-  
 ded about two of the clocke, hee remained well till fourte  
 then was he ouerthowne into fourte severall fits one pre-  
 sently after another; the last wherof was most intolerable,  
 tossing and tormenting him very pitifully, it seemed by  
 his looks and gestures that the euill spirit spake; but be-  
 cause of master Eccarsalle advise, he kept a discontented  
 silence, as he told afterward to his mother, but she abu-  
 sed him, that if it should speake againe, he should not feare  
 or forbear to answer it. About this time some meate was  
 prepared for him, but before he could take it, he was over-  
 thowne into a cruell fit, wherein after that Sathan had  
 shewed a while his rage, he spake saying: Dost thou saie  
 that I shal worship thee? I wil worship the Lord of hosts  
 onlie, I charge thee. In the name of the father, of the sonne  
 etc, to tell me what thy name is. Dost thou say thou wilt  
 not tel me before to morrow? Thou art a liar, I haue euer  
 found thee so, and I will not beleeue thee. Dost thou saie  
 thou wilt torment me far more grieuously than euer thou  
 hast done? I care not for al that thou caust do vnto me: In  
 the Lord is my trust, who wil deliver mee when his good  
 pleasure is: presently Sathan tormenteth him according to  
 his wonted maner. After that fit was ended, and he had a  
 while bin quiet, Iesse Bee persuaded him to be coragious,  
 to take vnto him the shield of faith, and to offer Sathan  
 the combate. The childe finding himselfe strong in the  
 Lord (whose assistance he had before obtained in his former  
 conflicts)

## by the chuell.

conflicts) condiscended to his motion: so Iesse read the first chapt. according to S. John till he came to the 9. ver. *That light was the true light, &c.* at which words he was over-thrown into a griesous soye fit; which vexed and tormented him in euerie part of his boode; which being ended, Iesse asked hym if he shoulde read agayne: The boy answered chearfully, read on in Gods name: so he read till he came to the 13. ver. *which were borne not of blood, &c.* At these words he was thrown into grieuous tormentes, like to the former: at which ynded, Iesse asked if he shoulde read till: The boy answered, proceed in the name of God. Then read he the 14. ver. *The same Word became flesh, &c.* At which words he was tormented the third tyme; yet not so vehemently as before. He proceeding forward read till he came to the 17. ver. *The law was given by Moses, grace and truthe came by Jesus Christ.* Howichwith he fell into the fourth fit, the feblest of alle he perhad; satan no doubt finding his soye quailing, and his fierie darts quenched. So Iesse read on, the Child cheerfully & attentively hear-kening till he had finisched the chapter without anie trouble to him. The next day (among other fits) he had one much more bghemens than the rest, his tormentes being increased and his strength so great, that two strong men were not able to rule him. After this fit Iesse Bee said, *Come Thomas, shall we prouoke hym to battell?* To whom the child answered, yes verie willingly. So they lookes for the Bible, but the boyes Uncle had taken it to the Church. Then did the Boy desire Iesse to resolute him in this doubt, whether it were bursfull for one to eate or drinke before he receiueth the Sacrament of the Lords Supper. Being satisfied concerning this point, and casting downe his head to call to remembiance soyme else wherof he doubted, he was on the sodaine overthrown into a grieuous fit, groaning and shreaming most pitifullly, turning as round on all fourre, as a pygge on a spit; who loathly (but what the

## A Boy posseſſed

keepers could) he leaped vp to the top of the bed, catching hold on the tſtern with his hands & hanging by his armeſ, notwithstanding his eyes were cloaſed vp: & being in this caſe, he ſaid; doſt thou ſay I ſhall hear newes within theſe 2. or 3. daies? I pray God it be good newes. He was at laſt caſt into a traunce, vicering diuers ſuch comfortable ſpeeches, as in other his traunces he diſ. This day there came one to them, hauiing been (of her owne accord) wyrh wiſdom Worthington the good Witch of Hoppers (as they call her) and tolde them, he ſaid the Boy was bewitched; yet help him ſhe could not, excepce his mother or ſome of his neareſt frendſ came vnto her. The ſame anſwer was giuen by a Witch abut Couentrey to another, looking for ſome helpe in the boyes behalfe. But the mother of the Childe (detaking the diuellis helpe) thanked thole two for their kindnes towards hiſ, but sharply reproched them for attempting a thing ſo unlawfull. After theſe ſits, he reſted reasonable quiet til the next day; when as about one a clock (ſeeming verie well) he received ſome meate. But Daſhan ſewed himſelfe to be a right lachan, euen a ſore enemie to the Childe, (enuying the godd of hiſ bodie; when he ſaw himſelfe vnable to hurt hiſ ſoule) diſ let hiſ digeſting of it (as manie times hee diſ) by caſting him preſently into diuers fits; which as (uiauall all hiſ fits diſ) laſting about halfe a quarteſ of an houer, endes with a boſt. Manie that were Debolours of the Childeſ coments, little hoſped that euer he could haue liued or recovered. But God be praized, that Daſhans power is limittid by him who is Lord both of life and death.

When theſe Conſlicts were ended, leſſe Bee ſaid vnto him, Thomas ſhall we take the ſword with two edges, and bid Daſhan the Battayle? The Boye (beeing well acquaynted with the phraſe) anſwered; If you will read, I will gladly heare. So he read the firſt Chapter of S. Johans Gospell; whiche whiileſt he was reading, the childe was

## by the diuell.

was overthowne into thre fittes. After these fittes, he was verie cheefull, and desirous to haue the booke, that hee might read himselfe : which hee did. And when hee came at the fiftieth verse of the first Chapter of the Reue-  
lation (for that Chapter he read) he was overthowne in-  
to a cruell fitt : which beeing ended, hee gaue the booke  
to Iesse Bee, intreating him earnestly to read on for ward.  
So Iesse Bee finished the Chapter, and read also the se-  
cond and was never (in reading them, with anye moxe of  
the boies fitts) interrupted.

Upon the one and twentith of Aprill, though betwixt  
nine of the Clocke in the moring, and two in the after-  
noone hee had come fittes, yet the last of them was most  
extreame : in the middest of it hee would open his eyes a-  
moyedly, and presently clap both his hands vpon them,  
beeing overthowne into most violent tormentis through-  
out all the parts of his bodie ; and beeing cast vpon his  
backe, he threwe forth his legges fiercely, beating them  
against the ground vehemently : and after that lying in a  
quiet traunce, hee opened his mouth, saying ; Dost thou  
saye that thou wile giue mee a Crowne, if I will worship  
thee ? I regard thee not nor thy Crowne ; for the Lorde  
hath reserved a Crowne of rightheousnesse for mee in Hea-  
uen.

Then (pausing awhile) hee spake again saying ; Dost thou saye thou wile giue mee Townes and Countreyes, if I will worship thee ? Away Satathan away, thou art a  
lyar, and the Father of lyes ; I will not beleue thee : a-  
way. Fooorthwith his mouth was cloased vp, and his  
teeth set fast in his head, insomuch that hee laboured to  
haue opened them with his owne hands, but he could not,  
yet when hee had remained awhile thus, the Lord (by his  
almightie power) opened his mouth, and he boldly sayd ;  
I charge thee (Satathan) in the name of the Father and of  
the Sonne.

## A Boy possessed

At which word his mouth was fast closed againe, yet was it not long before the Lorde (by his power) opened it againe. So he proceeded, saying; I charge thee tell mee what is thy mistres name? Hast thou thou wilt not? and doost thou say thou wilt torment me ten times more? No sooner wer these words spoken, but he was tormented as houe measure. Next day betwix ten and one of the clock, he had two ordinarie fits, and at the loose of thise, one extraordinarie; in the which beeing overthowne vpon his back, with his accustomed tormentes, he uttered these words Wouldst thou haue me worship thee, thou liar, thou wicked wretch? thou art the father of all lies. I charge thee get from me, awa, away. These words he uttered disdainfully, shaking his hands at him. And after he had paused a while, he said, Dost thou promise me all my desire? I will worship thee: Ah wicked tempter, I charge thee in the name of the Father, &c. to tell me thy Mistres name? These words he uttered with an interrupted booyce but repeated them presently verie couragiously: saying also, And doost thou say thy Mistres hath given thee a draught of her blood? I am glad of it: for then shall I knowe her shote. By. And doest thou say thou wilt torment me twice more? At these words he was cast into two sore fits; so that satan kept promise with him. His tormentes caused him to creame verie lowd and groane pitifullly, flinging out his hands as though he fought with satan, and flanping fercely, as if he trode hym under foote. This combat ended, he lay stil about a quarter of an houre, & then hauing been a while tormentend, lying on his backe, he said; Dost thou say because I vex thy mistres thou wile torment me more? Whiche words being spoke, he was cast into such tormentes, as were grieuous to the beholders. And hauing overcome the extremitie of the same, he spake (with his eyes shut) saying; What, doost thou say I shall worship thee? thou hast no sauch satan, I will fight with thee with the wordes of the euell.

## by the diuell.

everluny god, Auoid, auoid; I charge thee in gods name to get thee hence. Again after more fites he said; what, dost thou say thou wilt make mee as strong as a Giant, and as rich as the greatest Potentate in h world, if I will worship thee: the Lord my God can make me strong, & give mee all good things. Having paused a litle, he speake again, saying; dost thou say if I wil not worship thee thou wilt make me a four-footed beast: that lieth not in thy power, since God hath made me a reasonable creature: my faith lathan is strong. And, doost thou say thou wilt torment mee grievously for thy mistres sake: Forwith he was grieuously tormented, crying out, A beare, a beare: his mouth was stretched out, and he rozed fiercely like a beare, crying out, he teareth me, he teareth me. These tormentes ended, he lay amazedly, with the sweat running downe his face. Being againe tormented, hee spake saying; wilt thou give mee a land full of all frutes if I will worship thee: the Lord in heauen hath goods enough for me: thou didst send a beare thy helhound to torment me: thou didst tell mee I shold heare newes within 2. or 3. daies; dost thou say thy mistres hath commanded thee not to be an hower from tormenting me, because I ver her: is that thy newes: At these wordes he was presently cast into grieuous tormentes, starting amazedly and crying out, Flames of fire, flames of consuming fire: he threw away all things he could finde by groping (for his eyes were shut) and wond himselfe close in the bed clothes. Scarcely had these tormentes an end, but othes began; wherein being grieuously afflicted, he cryed out, A fierie dragon, a fierie dragon. These tormentes continuing, hee said; now thou loule fiend, now thou shewest thy self in thy likenes. Presently he strooke both his hands upon his face, shiking and crying searfully, A syre, a syre. Being asked what he had seene in these conflicts: hee answered, manie & fearfull things, but remembred them not; neither could tell he speake, though he cald to minde a thing.

D

spake

# A Boy possessed

24  
25  
26
 spake to him. The 24 day about 11. of the clock he fell into an extreme fit, which strooke him pitifully in all parts of his bodie, making him roar like a beare. Being asked after the fit what he had seene : he answered a great beare came roaring vpon him. Four firs more he had before 4. of the clocke ; at which time Ma. Edw: Cockin came into the house, and finding him well, bade him read the 12. of John : which he did, till he came to the 15. verle *I am glad for your sakes, that* &c and then was he cast into a fit presently. Vpon this there came in another, desiring to see the like triall : so the Boy read till he came to the 25. verle, *I am the resurrection* &c, at which words he was againe ouer-thowen. This desire that manie had to haue the boy read, that they might see him in his fits, sauourid but of a temp-ting curiositie, and is not warrantable. But to goe on. The Boyes tormentis continuing, Rob: Toone being al-together without hope of his recoverie ; both because the Witch confessed nothing, and the man that promised help failed, whereat he greeued exceedingly. Manie perswaded him to send to divers Witches, which he refused ; but hys wiffe purposed to attempt it, and sent for a messenger, who had before beene employed by others in the like busnes. He found the Boy in a fit when hee came ; and thereupon vttered these words ; who would suffer him to lye thus ; & not seeke anie helpe hee could get : Whereuntoo, an honest man (not acquainted with their purpose) answered ; To seeke helpe at a Witch, is wicked and dangerous. The messenger was pricked in conscience with his speech, and would not goe. Ro: Toore was not a litle glad they were stopped in so unlawfull an enterprise. This day also another had been with widow Worthington the Witch of Hoppers, (unknown to the Boyes frends) and brought this answere ; that unlesse the Boye and his frends believed her, she could do him no good : which thing they de-tayld.

The

## by the diuell.

The six and twentie of Aprill (after nine fifties in the morning) about one of the clocke he was overthowne into a verie soyle Fute, and in the same was greciouslye vexed and tormentced. At the last he spake thus; Whac doost thou saye, if I will worship thee, thou wilt make me a God: bat if I will not, thou wilt make me a toad: It lieth not in thy power satan to make me what thou wilt; but in the power of my Creatour. And doost thou say thou wilt torment me twice: do thy worst, the Lord is my trust, and I know he can and wil deliver me. Being then sodainly tormentcd, he did struggle most fiercely, roaring fearfully like a beare, crying A beare, a beare; and by and by, A dragon, a dragon. After this, he was quiet about a quarter of an hower, and then (upon the sodaine) fell into the like tormentcs, and spake (as before) saying; doest thou say thou hast brought mee good newes: I praye God it bee. And doost thou say if I will curse God, thou wilt release me of all my paynes and tormentcs: What satan, wouldest thou haue mee curse my Creatour, which spares not to send his onely begotten Sonne Jesus Christ out of his bosome, to shed his most precious Blood for my knes: Ah wicked Tempter, I charge thee in the name of the fa:her, the Sonne, and the Holy Ghost, to tell me what is thy mistres name: Doest thou saye, thy mistresse hath rewarded thee, and therefore thou wilt torment mee more than ever thou diddest: I care not for thee a strawe: what satan, seek not to insult in thy subtile cruelties: for the Lord will release mee from thee when his god wil and pleasure is; and so (with some more tormentcs) this fit ended.

The next day he came that promised to cure the boy, and to prooue her plainly (which was had in suspition) to be a Witch. He willed Robert Toone onely to procure him a warrant to fetch her from the Gaole: promising, as he hated all Coniurac[i]on and Inchauntment, so it shoulde

# A Boy possessed

30

30

hee manifest what course hee tooke for effecting those mat-  
ters. This daye and both the next he had manie sofe fits.  
Upon the last of April, between 9. and 3. in the afternoone  
he had 14. fits. At this time the witches libertie being pro-  
cured, she came to Towne, and was brought to the Boye :  
to whom she said, God helpe thee my childe ; whereupon  
he was presently cast into most strange tormentes, differing  
both in manner and crueltie from the former. Three strong  
men could hardly hold him, he was so strong; he shaked pi-  
cifully, bleating out the tung, and hauing his neck so wry-  
then, that his face seemed to stand backward. This pitifull  
spectacle did wryng manie teares from the beholders. So  
from 3. till 9. at night he had 27. of these tormentes, & then  
they left him quaking and meruailously dismayed. These  
fits being layd to the Witches charge : she answered, that  
she indeed did vex the childe, but if they would forgiue her,  
it shuld cease. Two or three went to Stapen-hill to see  
what the olde woman did this while ; suspecting she had a  
hand herein: when they came therer, they found her on her  
knees ; praying (no doubt) to the diuell. Upon the first of  
May, about 7. in the morning, he was cast into a fit. This  
was the daye wherein the Cunning man would make the  
Witch confesse, and a lennight after cure the Boye : so hee  
sent for her from the Towne Hal to Rob: Toones, where  
manie worshipful Personages were readie to see proove of  
his skill. Being brought, they laboured to make her con-  
fesse voluntarily : to whom she answered, this was y first  
that euer she committed ; and if they would procure her li-  
bertie, shee offered to confesse all the truth freely. Pre-  
sently her speech was interrupted, so that shee could not  
speak, but she praied them to forgiue her. Then the man  
seeing this would not preuaile, fell to triall of his conclusi-  
on : hee put a paire of new shooes on her feete, setting her  
close to the fire, till the shooes being extreme hot, might  
constrayne her thorough increase of the paine to confesse.

This

## by the diuell.

This was his ridiculous practise, she being throgly heat-ed desired a release and she would disclose al; which grant-ed, she confessed nothing. Being therefore threatned more sharply, he offered to reueale all privately to mistresse De-thicke, and going with her into a parlour; when he began to speake her wimde was stopped, so as shee could not say any thing, but, I pray you forgiue me. By this it was ri. of the clocke, and the boy had had 8. fits, and was broughte into the parlour where she was, who said, Thomas, I pray you forgiue mee, and be good to mee. At which words hee fell into a maruellous soxe fit. After which, the companie continued threatening and perluading her, but al shee would say, was, she was soxe for him, for she misloske him, thin-  
king him to be Sherrats boy, thinking to haue bin reuen-  
ged on him for breaking her egges. When they saw they  
could preuaile no more, they sent her againe to the Hall,  
and the company departed: after which the boy had 8. fits.

The next morning went Jerome Horabin, Edward Weightman, missis Caldwall with other to heare what confession she would make. At whose comming she speake thus; I met the boy in the wood, the first saterday in Lent, and passing by me, he called me witch of Stapen hil: unto whom I said, Every boy doth call me witch, but did I e-  
uer make thy arse to itch: Further shee saide, I pray you get help for the boy, for Gods sake get help for the boy. Againe she said, God give mee grace to confesse the trueth. And when shee would haue spoken on, he said, I cannot, I cannot, my wimde is stopped: missis Caldwall asked her if shee would be prayed for: Yes (quoth she) I pray you desire  $\text{H}$ . Ecce Iall to pray for me, that the Lord would s-  
pen my hart, that I may speake the trueth. The 3. of Maie  
in the morning, Rob. Toone, Edw. Weightman, Rich.  
Teate and others, went againe to examine the witch, who  
confessed to them laying: The first saterday in Lent to-  
ward evening I met the boy in the wood, and he called me

## A Boy possessed

Witch of Scapen hil : and I saide againe, euerle boy dooth  
 call me witch, but did I euer make thy arse to itch: sooth.  
 Wher I stouped to the ground, and the Duell appeared to  
 me in shenesse of a little partie-colored dog red and white,  
 and I called him Minny, seeing that euerie boy calleth  
 mee witch, therfore goe thy waies and torment this boy  
 in euerie part of his bodie at thine owne pleasure, sooth.  
 Wher I strained euerie part of my bodie, enforcing my selfe  
 to vomit, laying; After this sooth, were euerie part of him,  
 Further (said she) the dog followed the boy to Burton, and  
 as I returned from Winsell (wher I went to buie a  
 groates-worth of egges) he met me againe, telling me he  
 had fulfilled my request, and at my yards end he departed  
 from me; since when he hath bin diuers times with mee at  
 Darbie Gaole, and these two nights at Burton Hall, and  
 continually he scratcheth my head, & scratcheth in the straw.  
 Againe she said, the boy will not mend except you seek for  
 help: you may haue help enough: she would haue spoken  
 further, but something stopped her throat, and shee saide,  
 come out thou soule serpent. From 8. til 2 the boy had 12  
 sore fits with pitiful groaning: at 3 came M. Hildersham  
 of Ashby de la Zouch, with diuers of her godly ministers  
 M. Hildersham after that by certaine questions, hee had  
 made triall of the boys faith, said openly, that howsoeuer  
 the papists boasted much of the power their priests had to  
 cast out diuels, and the simple euerie where noted it as a  
 great discredit to the Ministers of the Gospel, that they do  
 want this power, yet did he professle there was no such gift  
 in them, that though the Lord oft in these daies, by the pri-  
 aers of the faulth cast out diuels, yet could he not assure  
 them to cure him. To holde this faith of myzacles to re-  
 mainestill in the church, is an opinion dangerous. That  
 seeing to be possessed is but a temporall correction, & such  
 as whereby both the glorie of God and the saluation of the  
 partie may be surthered, it can not without sinne be abso-  
 lutely

## by the diuell.

lately prayed against: al which notwithstanding, that there is a good use of prayer in such a case, and of fasting also, to procure that the judgement may be sanctified to the beholders, and the possessed himselfe; yea to obtain that he may be delivered also from it, if the Lord see it be best for his owne glorie. In which perswasion, hee being the meane of the rest, they all prayed, during which time the childe was not interrupted.

Wheras Alice Gooderige said her familiar was like one William Gregories dog of Stapenhill, there arose a rumor, his dog was her familiar: wherefore hee with his neighbour master Coxe went the next day to examine her concerning this report; and she saide, my diuel (I say) was like your dog. Now out upon thee (saide Gregorie) and departed: he being further examined, saide she had her familiar of her mother. The first of Mai hee had iii. fits in the forenoone, and i. in the afternoone; these last were as greeuous as ayre before. After one of them taking the chamber pot, he started sodainely saying, looke where a man commeth out of the chamber pot. In another fitte he cried out, Flames of fire, flames of fire: and in another he said, I see the heauens open. In the most of these fits hee cleared out his tongue very blacke, haing his face wy; then towards his backe, groaning and shakynge lamentably; being asked if he remembred what was done, he said, it seemd to him he was wroong and tossed vp and downe: after these fits he remained wel till next morning. On Friday he was by a clocke cast into a fit; but about 8 he fell into maruellous strange tormentes, both for continuance and extraordinary cruelty, his teng i thurst out of his head, his mouth drawn awy, first toward one eare, then to another; his face very strangely disfigured. In his extreanitie he made signes to the standers by to pray, and himselfe by folded hands and other gestures, gave testimony that the spirit of God was mightily laboring against his infirmities.

By

## A Boy possessed

By and by his eies opened, & what euer he caught he (as it seemid) threw it against sathan, and strait they being shut vp again, so that he could not open them with his fingers, which he indeuoured, his mouth was opened, & he said, O pray pray, never moe need to pray; so the company royd in humble & harty praier: but he hearing them not (thogh they yraied lowd) saide, whie do you not pray? Presently his mouth being shut, and his teeth set fast in his head, he stampit (as it were) in triumph of sathan, and lifting his hands towards heauen, stroke them with reverence on his breast. Sathan's raging against him did increase in such mauer as caused the beholders to shad tears abundantly, for they could no sooner imagin a ceasing, but strait his fit began againe: and this conflict lasted long, in which space, he oft uttered these words; do what thou canst sathan, this shal doe thee no good: Is it so? and such like. And after obtaining the vse of his tung, he proceeded saying, Auoyde sathan, I haue vpon my head the helmet of saluation, and I am girded about with trueth. Jesus Christ hath shad water and bloud for my sins, & I sweat but water. O Lord thy apostles were whipt & scourged for thy trueth, & they departed, reioycing that they were accounted worthy to suffer for thy names sake. And now (O Lord) I reioyce that thou accountest me worthy to suffer these cruell tormentes. Presently he fel into torment againe; at the last lyng on his backe quietly, he desired the standers by to sing the xii psalme, and so they did, he singing with them verie cheerfully. While they were singing, he oft was interruped and royd with them againe toward the ende: having laine in a trance, so that they could scarcely perceiue anie motion, he said; I see the heauens open, hearken, I heare a heauenlie noise, and lyng still a while, he met with them at the 10. ver. And now my foes, that (gd he) is sathan and so continued singing til the psalme was ended: all the psalme thogh he sweat exceedingly, & vried his face as if he

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he had not bin in his sy. After this, he desired them to pray for him whilst he lay down & slept, and so fell into a trance; having laine stil a while, he fel to quaking & starting feare. Tully laying: Dost thou say my sinnes are great. Marhan. The Lamb of God hath taken them awaie: divers other interrupted speeches he uttered, and slumbered againe. At length he cried out, Wild hores, wild hores; they teare me, they teare me; and then was he tormenteth ouer al the partes of his boode. After that he slept somewhat slumberingly, having a most heauenly and ioyfull vision. When he awaked he looked cheerefully: and being asked what he saw in these trances, he coald not call anie thing to minde.

This daie he was cast into seuen cruel fits exceeding all he had before: soz besides that his mouth was drafen & wrie, and he in euerie part vexed, his shoulder bones were thrust out of ioynt, with other tormentes most lamentable: thus they ended, soz he remained til xi. a clocke grievously vexed, and almost without intermission. In these his tormentes, being (soz the most part) senselle, he vseth to utter divers interrupted speeches, some fearefull, others comforstable; the slanders by beeing requested of him, to sing psalmes and pray, he many times had his eare stoure, and his mouth stope, so that he could neither heare nor speake, yet he would come with them in praier and singing so long as he could without interruption. When he was fully recovered, he looked very cheerfully, giuing God thankes for his assistance: they asked him many questions concerning his trances, but he could remember nothing that was done. On the nineteenth day of Maie he fell into trances mixed with tormentes, in which as hee suffered grievous paines, so did he utter many strange speeches, sometime he was so wrested, that no beholder thought it possible soz him to live; sometime he lay so stil, that there scarce appeared any signe of life in him. After he had laine a while in a trance he saide; My Sauour Christ Iesus was tempted,

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and why then shold not I bee so? Pawzing a while hee  
 said, I heare a voyce from heauen, the Lorde speaketh to  
 me: and pawzing againe, he held vp his handes (his eies  
 being fast closed) and saide, Looke where my brother Iob  
 is. Then opened he his eies, but his mouth was fast shut:  
 he would haue opened it with his handes, but could not:  
 Then pawzing a little, he said, no, no, I will not. The  
 Lorde hath flatly forbiddon it in his word: so lying a while  
 he saide, heauen openeth, heauen openeth, I must goe ther-  
 eth: then clapping his handes for ioy he said, I see Christ  
 Iesus my Sauior, his face shineth as the Sunne in his  
 strength, I will goe salute him, and indeue he did rise go-  
 ing space, with such strength, that his keepers could scar-  
 ely stay him: presently he fel a tremblung and stamping,  
 crying, a dog, a dog, for Gods sake take away this dog;  
 away with this filchy dog that came out of hell: and after  
 a pittifull screaming he saide; Oh Maister Hilderham,  
 I thought he would haue toome me in peeces, preachiug-  
 ment against all sinners, flames of fire, flames of fire, See  
 Maister Hilderham, preach and teach, Oh fast and pray  
 night and day. After these speeches, he clapt his handes,  
 looking chearefully, though his eies were closed, saying:  
 Christ Iesus my Sauior commeth clothed in purple; then  
 seemed he (by his gestures) to imbrace him, saying: Holy  
 is thy name; thy name (Lorde Iesus) is to be exalted for  
 euermore, I haue seene such sightes, O Lorde Iesus blesse  
 me from them. Presently he was overtaken againe with  
 feare, saying: Doost thou say this is the bottomlesse pitte  
 where the damned be? Maister Hilderham, we had need  
 to pray, O preach and pray: strait after he looked cheere-  
 fully even with admiration, saying: Thy name O Lorde  
 Iesus is to be exalted aboue all things, thy name is to bee  
 blessed for euer. Lying a while in a trance, he clapped his  
 handes saying, Oh, oh, Christ Iesus my sauior and his A-  
 postles: Then seemed her to embrace the Apostles, and  
 worship

## by the diuell. A

worship our Maunour saying, O Lorde Iesus thou suffe-  
rest for my sake; thy name be praised, yea, I say from my  
heart, thy name be praised. By and by turning his head, he  
pointed saying, Looke where Iudas is syng in tormentes,  
After this he fell againe into a traunce, and lay as he had  
him dead, but spake fearefully thus; Ah looke in this place  
of tormentes where knyngards are hanged by the choates,  
swearers and fistie talkers by their tongues: and having  
spoken of other tormentes for other sins, he saide, O great  
iudgements, great iudgements, which wardes he vettered  
so wofullly, as if he had beene in the iawes of hell; and on  
the contrary, so comfortably, as if he had beene in heauen.  
After this falling into a traunce, hee started sodainely and  
saide, Powder comes mother Redde Cap, looke how they  
beate her braines out, see what it is to be a witch: see how  
the coades gnaw the fleshe from her bones. O pray, pray,  
looke what wailing, and weeping, and gnashing of teeth  
yonder is: Lord shew vs thy mercie; take me by the hand  
Maister Hildersham, and let vs goe to heauen: thus this  
fit ended after halfe an houre; being asked what he had bin  
doing, he answered, he had beene sleeping, for he remem-  
bered nothing. Having beene well about a quarter of an  
houre, he fell into a quiet traunce, and at length saide: O  
Maister Hildersham, looke where Gods chariot is come  
to fetch you and me, see how God loueth vs: by and by he  
beganne to quake, and cried; Lo, lo, the greene Cap comes  
out of hell: then falling into a quiet trance, he saide, looke  
where the 7 churches be, and presently he skritched saying;  
Lo, lo, 7 vgly diuellis, looke, they goe downe to the bot-  
tomlesse pit. Dauyng againe he saith, See see how many  
kings and rich men go to hel, even they that were so brane,  
and fared so dauntly, and were so stowt. After this he fell  
into a trance, saying; come M. Hildersham, the Lord bids  
vs come, let vs go, and so he went on, and could hardly be  
staide: but straitway his ioy turned into heauiness, for he see-  
med to

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to haue bodily combats with his spirituall enemie. These fits ended he remained well a quarter of an houre: then falling into a sodaine trance, he laid with tremblyng; Ha, ha, ha, I tolde you of this before, that after ioy commeth sorow. Looke you how I am tormente. O that I could see my sauour Christ Iesus. Soorthwith he stolt clapping his hands with great ioy, and saide; Looke where he commeth, thy name be praised, thy natre be praised. Amonge he had a confortable vision of the day of iudgement; crying, alowd, The trumpets sound, see see, the graues open, the dead arise, and al men come to iudgement; harke how the Angells cry, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth. Then pausing a little he saide, Looke looke how the wicked flie away like a flocke of doves, yet see a flame of fire overtaketh them. After much varietie of fits he cried, a fierie Dragon, a fierie Dragon teareth me in peeces, oh hee teares me, he teares me: and with these tormentis did this fit end betweene twelue and one. About three hee fell into a trance and tormentis like the former: for after he had spoken fearfully of the tormentis of the damned, he burst into pitifull speeches quaking saide; Looke where seuen diuels are, looke where a roaring lion is. Then he fel into a quiet trance; and soorthwith clapped his hands, saying; I see a milke white doue flying towatdz me - see where my Sauior commeth, his face shineth as the Sunne. These wordes uttered, he was againe terrified, and so with some more tormentis and trances this fit ended. The two daies following he had many fits and some trances, uttering the like speeches as before. The xii. of Maie he was remoued from his uncle M. Saunders house at Caldwall being 3. miles distant, where he had sixe fits. From the 13. to the 23. he was handled after his accustomed maner. The 23. of Maie, he was cast into eighteene fits worse than the former; for his shoulde r bones were thrust out of ioynt, his mouth drawne awrie; and amongst other complaints, hee cried

## by the diuell.

cried out of his legs, saying they thrust pinnes into them. And this is worthe the obseruation, that commonly (upon the Sabbath) when the boy was remembred by prai-<sup>A</sup>ter in godly Assemblies, Sathan did shewe his extreamest crueltie. The 24. and 25. he was tormented much like the day before. The 26. he was assaulted more fiercely, both in respect of the number and qualitie of his fits & tor-  
ments, in which he did oftentimes cry out, saying; Looke where sathan commeth from under the bed; & oftentimes Thunder, thunder; Lightening, lightening; Flaines of fire, flames of consuming fire; A beare, a beare; A dra-  
gon, a dragon; looke where sathan comes downe y thun-  
nery, looke, looke; for Gods sake take me from him. And thus in these terrible fits this daye passed. The next daye 25.  
B. 7. 14. 17  
there came one Iohn Dorell (a faichfull Preacher of the  
World) to him; who seeing him in diuers of his fits, assa-  
uled his frends and him he was possessed with an unclean  
spirit: telling him (out of S. Iames 4. chape. verl. 7.) that  
the onely way for his deliuerance was to resist sathan; in  
which if he failed, he shuld sin against God: because it was  
a breach of a Commandement, Resist the diuell. &c. That  
soz his further incouragement, he had a promise of victo-  
rie, in that it is said, he will or shall flee; That by the diuel  
is not to be vnderstood onely the temptations of the diuel,  
but even sathanes verie person. And proceeding to confirme  
the Childe's faith in this Resistance, he afterwards exhort-  
ed his Parents and the whole familie to prepare them-  
selves against the next day to that holy exercise of prayer  
and Fasting; alledging (to put by all doubt) the words  
of Christ, This kinde goeth not out but by Praier & Fas-  
ting. Whereunto they being verie willing impossewed Iohn  
Dorell for his presence and assistance. To which he an-  
swered, his assistance in Praier and Fasting they shoulde  
haue, but not his presence, as well to ayside note of vaime-  
glosie, as also for he saw no such necessite by reason of the

## A Boy possessed

Childers firme saith: neuertheles giving them order for their Exercise, and appointing them the helpe of a Booke called The Enemie of Securitie, & putting them in good comfort, he foretold them what interruptions were likely to follow by the Enemis rage: and (saith he) when you shall see these thngs come to passe (which indeeue fell out accordingly) then know ye for certaintie as he is possessed (whiche his frenes at Cawdwall stooe in doubt of), so looke that deliuerance is at the doore; and therefore faint not in the mid-way. Thus he departed. The next day, the Family with some others in the seate of God being toger-  
 ther, the holy Exercise of Praier and Fasting was taken in hand: and (after some Praier bled for the assitaunce of Gods Spittie, and praying for the remission of sinnes) he was verie grieuously and often tormentid; & (by meanes of his fits and tormentis) much interrupted therin, spend-  
 ing much time about the same. A Praier against the temp-  
 tations of Sathan was bled; and in the beginning thereof he was presently taken with a dumb fit: and comming to himselfe, he began to pray againe; and his fits came again  
 and againe so oft as he came to ane substantial Poynt. Af-  
 ter a while he fell into a trance, and at length a small voise  
 came from him saying; Brother Glassap, we cannot pre-  
 uale, his fith is so strong, and they fast and pray, and  
 a Preacher prayeth as fast as they. After these words,  
 he fell into a fit, and so into a trance, a voise beeing heard  
 frō him (dig a hollow) saying; Brother Radulphus, I wil  
 goe unto my master Belzebub, and he shall dubble their  
 tungis. Then beginning againe to pray, hee fell into a fit,  
 and after into a trance: afterward comming to himselfe, he  
 pouyned towards the chimney, saying; Loe where Belze-  
 bub standeth, & the witch by him. I charge thee in thy name  
 of the Father the Sonne and the Holy Ghost, to tell mee  
 whether this bee shee that did bewitch mee or no? Doost  
 thou say it was shee? Now the Lord (I beseeche him) say  
 gne

## by the diuell.

glue her, & I forgiue her. Further he said ; I charge thee in the name of the Father the Sonne and the Holy Ghost to get thee from me, & come no more at me : for it is written, Resist the diuell, and hee will flye from thee : and presently he sayd ; He is gone, he is gone. Then prayed he againe, and (at the third word) was throwne into a fit and a Traunce : wherein a voyce was heard from him (hys mouth being wyde open, as stll it was when these voyces were vittered) saying ; Radulphus, Belzebub can doo no good, his head is stroken off with a word : but I wyll goe fetch the flying Eagle and his flock. Presently after these words, he fell into another fit and a traunce : and (lying so) sayd ; I see an Angell in the windowe, like a milke white Doue, sent from the Lord to bee with mee to comfort and assit vs : but that is nothing in respect of the Lord himselfe.

Then (beginning to pray againe) he fell into a fitte and a Traunce : in the which one of the olde voyces was heard from him, saying ; We cannot preuayle, let vs goe out of him, and enter into some of these heere. This voyce came twice, and it made the Standers by astayde. Then (reading againe) hee fell into a Traunce : and the former voyce was heard from him, speaking verie hollosly (as both those vnnaturall voyces not vittered by hym selfe were) and saying ; I would they were all gone but one that is among them : and then wee shoulde doo well enough.

Then hee read againe, and (beeing cast into a trance) one of those voyces was heard, saying ; There is a Woman earnest at prayer, get her away. One in the Companie (called Iohn Alsop) aunswere slowly and sayde ; I see cannot spare her : yet did none of them all that were there know that shee was praying ; till (looking backe) they saw her earnestly at prayer in a corner being behynde them.

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Beginning againe to read, hee was sodainly cast into a traunce, and a voyce was heard which sayd; He shall bee tormented till to morow at night, do God & you what you can: but Sathan was prooued a liar. Recouering, & reading againe, he was againe snatched into his traunce, the voyce beeing heard againe, saying; Wee cannot preuaile, wee cannot preuaile, their Cl[er]uch increaseth: at whichtime came in two to ioyne in Phaier with y Companie. After this, reading againe, he fell into a traunce, and a voyce was heard from him saying; Here comemeth one of my people: with that they looked back, and were ware of a man of bad life comming into the parlor; and albeit the Boy was in his sicke, yet he made signes with his hand to the Companie to get him awaie; which one of them perceiving did so. Presently he awaked and read, and was interrupted by a trance, wherein a voyce said; Tare the booke, tare the booke: and with that (although his eyes were ciosed) he snatched at the Booke (which one had in his hand) and tare soozth one leafe of it: which thing also from that time till two of the clocke, he attempted in euerie of his sicnes; & being restrained (by reason that one held the Booke, and another his hands) hee would bite strike and spurne them with his feete at the beginning of his sicnes: wherein he was farre stronger than he was wont, and his tormentes more exceeding in greatnes & number. Betweene 8 in the mo-  
ning and 2 in the afternoon his countenance was strange-  
ly disfigured, his mouth set wide open, & sometime drawne  
awrie, his face turned backward, and his armes and shol-  
ders thrust out of ioynt: in which time he had one sicknes and  
trance, wherein a voyce sayd; Wee cannot preuaile, for  
they will not be holpen with Witches. Brother Radul-  
phus we cannot preuaile: let vs goe to our mistres and  
torment her, I haue had a draught of her blood to day,  
Forwthwith it ceased, and straight waies he was in a trance  
againe, and a small voyce was heard, saying; I will stop  
thy

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thy mouth, I will stop thy mouth : at which instant hee  
was so stopped in his throate, that the Companie thought  
he had been strangled. In another fit, a boyce said ; Your  
prayers preuaile not, they are not heard. Wherunto M.  
Rampam (Schoolmaster of Burton) replied ; Thou art  
a lier sathan, soz it is written : *Wheresoever two or three are  
gathered together in my Name, there am I in the middest of  
them, &c.* About two of the clocke hee had a myracious  
strange fit, tormenting him most pittifullly : in the ende  
whereof he strained to cast with great vehemencie, and got  
up some fleame and choller ; at which time, if he were pos-  
sessed with two spirites, (as it is probable he was) one of  
them went out of him. So from 2. till 4. his fits continued  
but decreasing in strength, and beeing without speeches.  
About 3. the Companie perceiving him to bee faint, per-  
suaded him to eate somewhat to refre sh him: which he did  
(hauing touched neither meate nor drinke of all the whole  
day before) : but before & after his meate he laid the Lords  
Prayer, and other Praieres in the Booke (which he before  
had assaied to read and could not) without anie interrupti-  
on. About 6. a clocke (being carried on his Keepers back,  
for he had no vse of his legs of three months before) his fit  
came vpon him verie sodainly, & he cried out like a beare.  
The standers by betooke themselues to Praier. During  
this fit hee had manie miserable tormentes, causyng him to  
roare and hauke extreamly. Many such senslesse trances on  
this daye of his deliueraunce he had, as yeldeed no signe of  
life, laue that his heart might be discerned to pant a litle.  
At last (being laid upon his bed) anone hee began to heaye  
and lise vehemently at his stomacke, and getting up some  
fleame and choller, (poynting with his finger and follow-  
ing with his eyes) hee said ; Looke, looke, see you not the  
Moue that is gone out of my mouth: and so poynted after  
it vnto the furthest part of the parlor. Then hee fell into a  
quiet trance ; which ended, he was well till 7. a clocke : at

## A Boy possessed

which time he and 2. or 3. more went to supper: and as he sat at the table he fell into a trance, and was thence carried to bed; as he lay theret, a Voice was heard, saying; *My Son arise up and walke, the euill spirit is gone from thee; arise and walke.* Upon this accident his keeper said; let vs see if he can goe betwixt vs. But he answered no; I can goe of my selfe. I thanke God: and so (standing on his feete) went presently forward without anie difficultie. And con- sidering with himselfe this blessed change of his miserable estate, (of his owne accord) he fell flat vpon the ground, giuing God thankes for his wonderfull deliueraunce, and that in such excellent manner, as was to bee admisted in a childe. But no doubt, the same Sperte which armed hym with faith and patience in the time of his torment, instru- cted him how to giue thankes and pray. Being thus fully recovered, he went presently into the towne, that it might appeare what Iesus had done for him, to the praise of his glorie; and admiration of those that had been acquainted with his meruailous visitacion.

The next morning Robert Toone went to the Gaole, and demanded of the Witch how he did: O master quoth she, never worse: for I haue had such an Ague this night, that I had thought my joints would haue been torn in su- der. They that dwelt by the prison, could not sleepe for the noyse that was there that night; so that it is like the di- uell was as good as his word, when he said he would tor- ment her.

After he was thus meruailously deliuered, he staid the next day at Cawdwall, & from thence went to his grand- fathers M. Walkedens at Clifton; whether the aforesaid John Dorell repaired unto him, and counselled him to be now most heedfull, least the vncleane spirit returning, and his heart empise of saich drudging & worse than himselfe with him, as our Saviour expresteth; assuring himselfe that he would staine to represse him.

John

## by the diuell.

Iohn Dorell departing, the Boy abode at Clifton till the 5. of June, which day he returned to Burton. There the 6. day (being the Sabaoth) and the 7. hee spent in religious exercise. The 8. he went to Schoole, from whence satan had long kept him. In the afternoone sitting at his book, he said unto his fellowes; if you will goe wth me into the Church-pard, I will shew you a strange thing. Whereupon they went into the Schoole Porch, (whiche their Master disliked not, because they had their booke in they hands) where after he had walked a while, hee sat downe and said he was wearie, and presently complained of one of his legs. cuen crying out: whiche his Master hearing, came to him; and remembryng his former trialls, prayed, moaning the Childe to say after him, O Lord for Iesu Christes sake haue mercie vpon me. But he most cried, O my legs, my legs. Here is to bee noted, that how euer satan greeuously assaulted him, yet did he not once torment him, because he was not (as before) in him which also some of the Bopes words confirmed.

Being brought home to his Uncles, (manie following and flocking after him) hee groaned pitifully, crying also, Daggers, daggers: and at length he said (with a fearefull countenance) I am afraid of satan. The compaine did incouerfe and comfort him against such temptations, persuading him to pray; whiche thing he perfourmed wth great difficultie, crying as before O my legs, O my legs. They being instant vpon him to pray, he poyned with his finger saying; What woman is that whiche standeth there? Still they vrged him with prayere: and while they expected it, he said; what a thundring is here; I cannot abide this thundring. Then fel he into a trance, and haueing layne a while, a voyce was heard from him saying; He fel a little and I caught him. By and by awaking he rose vp amazedly and said; Where am I. I was euernow in the Schoole: but they told him what had happened, so he came downe.

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down from his bed ; and feeling himselfe well, he prayed & read a chapter quietly, and so remained well all that night. The next morning the Boyes Uncle thought it verie convenient to labo<sup>r</sup> by Praier to remoue this heauie displeasure of God, and the danger of these temptations, where-with the Boy began againe to be assaulkted : & to that end sent for two of his neighbors, & spent an houre in praier & reading the Scriptures. At last as the Boy was reading, he stopt, saying ; what woman is that which stands there? They persuaded him to goe on, and not regard the illus-  
ions of sathan. So he read on, and was presently cast into a trance : and after he had laine a while said ; Behold I see a Lambe, hearken what the Lamb saith ; Thou didst fall & he caught thee : feare not, the Lord is thy buckler and defen-  
der. After this hee read on, and within a little space fell a-  
gaine into a quiet traunce, saying ; Dost thou say if I will worship thee, thou wilt make me understand the secrets of all mens hearts ? Anoyd Sathan, it is hid from thee : the Lord onely is the searcher of the hearts and reynes. Then did he read againe, and soorthwith was cast into a traunce, saying ; What faire woman is this, that is so gorgeously apparailed? Dost thou say thou wilt give her mee if I will worship thee ? Anoyd Sathan, I neither care for her nor thee : the Lord is my comfort, and him onely will I wor-  
ship: the Lamb and the Dove desire not to be worshipped, but thou alwaies desirtest worship. Againe he read & fell in a trance, saying ; Dost thou saye if I will sweare an oath thou wilt give me a hundred pounds ? Anoyd Sathan, wouldst thou haue me take Gods name in vaine ? I wyl not. He read againe, and at the third word was snatched into his trance, saying ; Wouldst thou give me a bag full of gold and siluer, if I will never read nor pray vnto God a-  
nie more ? Anoyd Sathan, I neither regard thy gold nor sil-  
uer ; the Lord and his Wlrd is better to mee than all the gold and siluer in the wold.

They

## by the diuell.

They offered him the booke againe, and he falleth present-  
ly into a traunce, saying; wouldest thou haue mee teare the  
booke? I will not teare it doe what thou canst: wilt thou  
teare him in pieces that continueth reading? (he meant  
Richard Teate, who read forward when the boy was in-  
terrupted.) Sathan thou canst not touch him, the Lorde  
will not suffer thee to hurt a haire of his head. Hee was  
straite after these wordes snatched into his trance, and said;  
Dost thou bid me open my mouth: what if I do open my  
mouth: dost thou say thou wilt enter into me? Anoyde sa-  
than, thou canst not enter into me, except the Lorde giue  
thee leaue; and I trust hee will not. Againe after this hee  
falleth into a traunce saying, come maister Hildersham,  
let vs sise goe to heauen: at which time there were iust six  
in the parlour. Then fell he againe before hee could reade  
two wordes into a trance, and said; what Sathan, wouldest  
thou haue me become a traitor? God defend. These wordes  
proceeded from him with great behemencie and earnest-  
nesse of spirite. Then pausing a while he saith againe,  
Dost thou say, that when I am asleepe thou wilt plucke  
out my throat: I care not for thee; thou canst not touch a  
haire of my head, except God giue thee leaue. Againe, be-  
ing in a traunce hee saide; doost thou say thou wilt set the  
house on fire and burne vs all: do thy worst, Sathan, thou  
canst not touch our soules. Then he read againe, and at  
the second word started amazedly, saying; looke where the  
Weare commeth, looke looke, do you not see how he com-  
meth against vs with open mouth: harke how he roareth,  
then saide he, Anoyde Sathan, and get thee hence: yea, I  
charge thee in the name of the everluing God to get thee  
hence. They offer him the booke againe, and he read not  
three wordes, but he was overtaken with a quiet traunce;  
wherein lying a while, hee saide, Oh I see a milke white  
Dowre: the Dowre saith, Feare not, you shall haue better  
newes. Againe he beganne to reade, and againe hee was

## A Boy possessed

snatched into his trance, and saide, Dost thou say the Lord  
 hath giuen thee leue to enter into mee. Auoyde Sathan  
 thou art a lier, I know he will not suffer thee to enter in-  
 to me. Againe, after he offered to reade, he was cast into  
 a trance, and lyng very quietly he saith; hearke ho, looke  
 what a faire Doue is there: the Doue saith the dwell v-  
 leth enemies towards me: hearke hearke what the Doue  
 saith, thou hast an enemie heere upon earth, that saith thou  
 art a dissembler, he shall stie in hell tormentes, thine eies  
 shall see his iudgements, for his simes doe smoake vp in-  
 to the elements, and do pierce the heauens. Then pawzing  
 againe a while he saith, hearke what the Doue saith, wher-  
 soeuer the glorie of God is shewed, there is alwayes some  
 enemies to resist it. He beganne to reade againe, but at the  
 third word fell into a traunce saying: what, doost thou say  
 thou wilt torment me: doost thou say thou wilt carry me  
 into a wood, and cast me out at the window: My Redee-  
 mer liueth, the Lorde of hostes is his name, I feare thee  
 not; remember that Sathan, and pawzing a while he saith,  
 M. Hildertham, see see how the world passeth away, yea  
 it must passe away, it hasteth on apace. Then beginnes he  
 to reade againe, and at the third word is cast into a trance,  
 & at length he saith, See what a little of Gods word doth,  
 how it chaseth him away: see see how Sathan flieth away.  
 Againe being about to reade, he started sodainely, and said  
 this booke is a flame of fire, and presently hee fell into a  
 trance, saying, Wouldst thou haue me reare the Booke:  
 Auoyde Sathan, I will not reare it. Then lyng still and  
 pawzing a while he saide at length; Looke where the doue  
 commeth, hearke what the doue saith, The Lorde thy God  
 hath tied thy enemy Sathan fast in a chaine, vntill thou fall  
 againe, he shall never tempt thee, hold fast and forget not:  
 the childe continued his speech saying: O Lambe of God  
 that takest away the simes of the world, thy name be prai-  
 sed, thy name be magnified and extolled for evermore,

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## by the diuell.

Forthwith he openes his eies, and taking the booke, he read very cheerfully a good space. Then did hee and all the companie ioyning with him humble themselues before the Lord God, glorifying and praising his holy name, for his comfortable presence, & gracious assistance in this myaculous worke, and so hauing continued in prayer a good while, the boy at last arose, finding the docters words true, and himselfe very well, both in mind and body, and so (thankes be to God) he hath remained ever since, whiche the Lord continue to his swone glorie, the ioy of the godly, and the childres comforte, Amen. Now the Witch is dead, had she liued, she shoulde haue bin executed.

F I N I S.

Shortly you shall haue the true storie come foorth of those seuen in Lancashire that were possessed with yncleane spirites, and all seuen deliuered at one time by this man.



Printed at London for John Oxenbridge dwelling  
in Paules Churchyard at the signe  
of the Parrot. 1597.

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